



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Meeting Minutes



January 28, 2003 9:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Office of Spill Prevention and
Response, Sacramento, California

Attendance:

Vicki Nichols	Stephen Ricks	Russell Long	Mike Scala	Tom Moore
Jonna Mazet	Ray Nottingham	Linda Sheehan	R. Mitchel Beauchamp	Kevin Mercier
Nick Salcedo	Ellen Faurot-Daniels	Harlan Henderson	Scott Schaefer	Bud Leland
Stephen Sawyer	Joy Lavin-Jones	Bill Weber	Michael Ziccardi	Ted Mar
Kyle Hanson	Michele Owens	Ryan Todd	Sidna Henry	Marguerite Diaz

TAC Members are requested to appoint an alternate representative to attend quarterly meetings in their absence.

The January 28, 2003 meeting of the Oil Spill Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), at the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, Sacramento, California, was called to order at 9:42 a.m. – Stephen Ricks, Vice Chairperson, and Vicki Nichols, Chairperson, presiding.

I. COMMENCEMENT/INTRODUCTIONS

STEPHEN RICKS (VICE CHAIRPERSON)/TAC

Participants introduced themselves. Mr. Ricks turned the discussion over to Mr. Henderson.

II. WELCOME/GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HARLAN HENDERSON

- *Welcome.* Two new members: Linda Sheehan, R. Mitchel Beauchamp
- *SONS.* Spill of National Significance (SONS) (Exxon/Valdez type of spill), which overwhelms all the resources in a particular location usually crossing jurisdictional boundaries/international boundaries. USCG has conducted three (3) SONS exercises, every other year. USCG allocates funds in the amount of \$500,000 per exercise, and the industry representative (Responsible Party) also allocates a large sum of funds to these exercises. American Petroleum Institute and Chevron (primary RP) are involved. API is working on engaging other companies, because there are smaller memberships that have a potential to have a SONS exercise, but do not have the funds. SONS exercise scenario will include Los Angeles, San Diego, and the USCG is working with Mexico to see how much they want to be involved. Scheduled for April 2004. Scenario may include: 1) a lightering ship that has a big crack leaking oil; 2) an attempt to get into a port; and/or 3) dispersants. Emphasis will be placed on training; opportunity for all entities involved (industry, USCG, State, and stakeholders) to put some training classes together. Technology workshop will be hosted by OSPR.
- *SB 849.* Bill Passed. Scott Schaefer to discuss further.
- *Sensitive Site Exercise Program.* Bill Weber to give a presentation.
- *OSRO Rating Program.* Ted Mar to give a presentation.
- *Prestige Incident.* Has not been a very good year for international accidents. Car carrier sank in English channel, and two ships hit it. Need to guard against complacency. Mike Ziccardi, OWCN, to give presentation of Prestige incident. Tom Moore to comment on the ship side of the incident; there is a lot of misinformation, particularly regarding safe port/harbor,
- *Sunken Vessels.* Luckenbach finished. Oil Spill Intelligence report dedicated an issue to the incident with a lead article by Kim McCleneghan (copy passed around to membership). Marine Board, National Board Academy of Sciences, and Ocean Studies Board putting together a committee to look at sunken vessels around the country, with a risk matrix/threat.
- *BC States Task Force.* Annual meeting in Hawaii last two weeks in July and round table of ports of refuge.
- *Upcoming events.* Lieutenant Commander Scott Schaefer to update 1997 MOU with USCG.
- *USCG Joint Exercise.* U.S./Mexus project - 2nd naval district. Exercise will be in Encinada, and will sign a plan. State invited to attend (Harlan Henderson and Robin Lewis will attend).
- *Summerland, Santa Barbara.* Joint risk of offshore wells seeping into the marine waters.
- *Budget Crisis Impact on TAC.* None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

STEPHEN RICKS (VICE CHAIRPERSON)/TAC

- Motion made by Jonna Mazet to approve the October 15, 2002 meeting minutes, seconded by Russell Long, and approved with modification.

IV. AGENCY REPORTS

CCC/BCDC/SLC

California Coastal Commission:

- CCC down two staff.
- Still attending all meetings, except LA Harbor Safety Committee meeting.
- Involved in search and collection for Luchenbach.
- Working with a number of parties (industry, experimental equipment, and agencies) on permits on a seep experiment and a new technology experiment that is planned for the end of summer in the Santa Barbara area. There will be ocean testing of new booming containment systems that funnel oil into a concentrated chamber where dispersants will be applied to get a sense of how the technology works at the surface and how it can be used to measure effectiveness of dispersants and the toxicity in the water column (three part experiment). In the permitting stage with several entities.
- Staff report distributed for a hearing in February for mitigation of Bolsa Chica wetlands in 2000, ending in 2002. Three spills covered by permit (violation, an emergency permit, small spill). All of these were spills that had impacts to wetland vegetation. Oil field in Bolsa Chica is slated to restoration. After Aera Energy leaves the oil field, it will be returned to tidal influence and a natural wetlands. Restoration plan to test how well natural restoration works against human maintained restoration.

SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission:

- *Harbor Safety.*
 - October 2002 welcomed new: 1) Captain of the Port San Francisco, Gary Swanson; 2) Commander for Corp of Engineers, Mike McCormick; and 3) Tanker representative, Doug Lathrop, Chevron-Texaco, with alternate Pete Bonnebaker, Phillips 66.
 - *Liquified Natural gas terminal and power plant briefing.* Terminal and power plant planned to be at Mare Island, which can raise some harbor safety issues.
- *Work Group Activities.*
 - Script writing for 10-12 minute video on safe navigation
 - *Tug escort work group.* Completed discussions on need for tug escorts for dangerous cargos - recommending no tug escort requirement. Reviewed all existing tug escort regulations - recommending no further modifications. Underwater rock draft risk assessment completed (low frequency or probability of ships running aground on underground rock, cost benefit ratio significantly less than one-to-one benefit cost ratio needed for corps civil work project), considering alternate approaches.
 - *Ports working group.* SF Marine Exchange and OSPR obtained a grant to continue work on a voluntary dbase.
 - *Area Contingency.* Working with OSPR in coordinating with local governments in terms of spill response, and planning a future tabletop exercise sometime around March.
 - *Interagency coordination.* Non point source water pollution staff, water quality and marina staff, and clean boating program. Signs being developed to post at fueling stations in marinas before boating season. Commented on one SIOSC document on security in marine oil terminals and participated in one unannounced drill.

State Lands Commission:

- Report circulated indicating statistics of monitoring of oil transfers throughout year compared to last years.
- *Oil Spill Database.* Database will allow everyone at SLC to manipulate numbers and view.
- LNG announcements, customer services meetings – presentation by the LNG, Mare Island.
- *Marine Terminal Security.* SLC members of all the Captain of the Port security committees. New regulations are with OAL for approval for oil terminal safety.

- *OES sends reports to SLC and OSPR.* OSPR has jurisdictions of spill of 42 gallons into marine waters, and inland spills. SLC responsible for land spills and terminals.
- *Marine Transfer Terminal Violations.* SLC does not enforce penalties pursuant to California Code of Regulations.

V. SPILL OF NATIONAL RESPONSE (SONS)**TED MAR**

Brief PowerPoint presentation on the implementation of the 2004 SONS exercise, which will have scenarios involving vessel incidents that impact the coast of CA ranging from LA/LB to San Diego and then to Mexico. Scenarios may include waterfront security, terrorist situation, equipment deployment, offshore vessel not involving FBI, or cruise ship highjack.

- *Federal on-scene coordinators zone.* Long Beach, San Diego, Washington DC, and National incident commander in southern CA.
- *Command Posts.* Four to be maintained three days, multi-shifts, and 18-24 hours a day.
- *Involvement.* Civil USCG, NRT, RRT, local area committees, Chevron, Contra Phillips, and OSPR/API as sponsors.
- *Assessment of Exercise.* Effectiveness of the SONS exercise and viability of response.

VI. LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTATION**SCOTT SCHAEFER/KEVIN MERCER**

- *SB 849.* Scott reviewed the implementation of the funding for the Oil Spill Prevention Admin. Fund (OSPAF) and provided a graph of the activities of the fund since 1990. Funding consistent around \$19 million or so per year. Plan implementation effective January 20, 2003 raising the fee from \$.04/barrel to \$.05/barrel. Non-tank vessels fee over 300 gross tons effective January 1, 2003 – once every two years of \$2500 along with COFR application. Three agencies get direct appropriation from the OSPA (DFG/OSPR-\$17M to \$20M, SLC-\$6.1M to \$7.7M, Board of Equalization-\$240,000 to \$243,000). Discussion on the legislative spending plan, with breakout by agency.
- *AB 2083.* Purpose to gather data on the impacts of tankering up and down the coast of California. Bill requires SLC to create a form to capture information on tankers transferring oil between Los Angeles and San Francisco, including Port calls (description of trends, total # of trips by oil type, amount of shipment, # of transfers due to refinery shutdown, location air emissions from vessels, etc.). San Diego and Eureka not included in Bill. SLC to give a report to the State Legislature in April 2004. \$80,000 to be funded through the OSPA to develop and manage.

VII. REGULATIONS UPDATE**JOY LAVIN-JONES/STEPHEN SAWYER**

- *Local Government Grant.* Not amended since 1983. Working with Cindy Murphy to cleanup regulations. Notice next week, Hearing April 8, 2003 at OSPR. For local governments to prepare contingency plans for oil spills that involve marine waters. Comments not expected.
- *Regular Rulemaking.* As a follow-up to emergency rulemaking to implementation of SB 849 to allow public comment period, etc. Notice to go out early February 2003. Mirror emergency regulations, with small changes. Two hearings (April 15, 2003, Bay Model; April 17, 2003, Port of Long Beach). Expect a lot of comments on COFR issue.

VIII. SUNKEN VESSEL MATRIX**TED MAR**

Presentation on the development of a Sunken Vessel Matrix to identify oil pollution risks from sunken vessels.

- *Measurable.* Use SLC compiled data of approximately 1500 sunken vessels. 1914 and prior deleted, vessel types such as: schooners, tugs, barks, and brigandines and propulsion (not oil) deleted, and grounded vessels deleted to obtain a more measurable database. Will also use databases from NOAA, USCG, and other agencies who have responded to sunken vessel incidents (to ensure current vessels that are submersible are included on matrix).

- *Analysis.* To include heavy oil vessels (mostly commercial vessels), and identified high risk vessels (approximately 450)
- *Vessel Control.* Prevent vessels from sinking. Keep abreast of viable information by ensuring C-Plans in order, tracking casualties, etc. Keep abreast of international vessel regulations and policies.
- *Identify.* Responsible Party of sunken vessel or potentially sunken vessel.
- *Funding.* Federal or State in order to mitigate risk.

IX. PRESTIGE SPILL, WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

DR. MIKE ZICCARDI

Detailed presentation Prestige ship spill off the coast of Spain, and description of the events leading to the spill (Spanish government's refusal to allow port access for repair, 10,000 tons released).

- Description of search and collection activities, OWCN involvement (setup protocols, organization, and training), facility development, assessment of animals, cleanup and tagging of animals/birds etc., and rehabilitation efforts (differences of opinion).
- Description of response/cleanup efforts and the extent of the spill.
- Overview on the impacts to birds and other marine wildlife.
- Video showing the wildlife rehabilitation efforts, interviews with international representatives, etc.

X. DRILLS UPDATED

BILL WEBER

- *OSRO Rating Drills.* AB 715 established performance standards for each OSRO to be rated. 11 unannounced OSRO drills from November 11 thru December 31. Not done at night, outside the normal workday; somewhat done early in the morning at 6 a.m.
 - realistic standards from OSPR and industry
 - ensure OSROs can perform in a timeframe and manner consistent with their applications
 - ratings awarded based on time of completion
 - Guidelines: safety first, notifications, scenarios out of applications submitted (compared to narratives), briefing, ratings based on level of completion, efforts were made to not test the strategy, ensure equipment not reused repeatedly
 - Outcomes: consolidating OSRO response matrix, statewide OSRO GIS, more drills, collaboration

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

ALL

- *Discussion on the TAC biennial report*
 - Previously OSPR summarized actions from minutes and put together all background information (TAC issues and accomplishments to be included)
 - Draft report due July 2003 for TAC review (Chair and Co-Chair to review prior to sharing with TAC)
 - Second draft due October 2003 to vote on changes and finalize prior to November 15, 2003
 - Final report due to Resources by November 15, 2003
- *TAC Issues and Accomplishments to be included on report*
 - TAC review of justification for increasing the Fund [**completed effectively**]
 - Detailed discussion on tar ball Spills. Information and facility capability for vessels to discharge tank waste. How it may relate to mystery occurrence of winter tar ball incidents. Is there enough shoreside convenient disposal sites that would preempt the ship owners from dumping waste into the ocean. *Suggestion to have a presentation at April meeting from the State of Washington on oily waste separator bypasses.* [TAC needs to continue addressing]
 - Use of Dispersants: Concern regarding better mechanism between State and Federal Trustee agencies (especially the sanctuary). *Suggestion to have a presentation on status towards end of 2003.* [TAC needs to continue monitoring]

- Spill cleanup costs: Assessment of costs for cleanup of spills involving tank vessels, non-tank vessels, facilities and other covered plans. Subcommittee created to look at consultant for this assessment; subcommittee determined that the TAC would not be able to gain meaningful information by hiring a consultant. **[Impractical/not high priority – no further action by TAC]**
- Crude Oil Lightering Operations off San Diego **[TAC needs to address]**
- Cruise Ship Discharges: OSPR looking into regulating cruise ship discharges. **[TAC to address oil or oily water discharges, as needed]**
- TAC contact information to be provided to Marguerite L. Diaz by February 15, 2003
- Schedule of future TAC meetings
 - April 22, 2003 – Richmond Facility (possible vessel tour)
 - July 22, 2003 (location TBA)
 - October 28, 2002 (location TBA)

ADJOURN